

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LONDON 11184 151651Z  
ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 A-01 OPR-02 SY-05  
CCO-00 NSCE-00 NEA-10 SAA-01 IO-13 /060 W  
-----046001 151653Z /43

O 151629Z JUL 78 ZFF 4  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO AMEMBASSY BONN NIACT IMMEDIATE  
SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8168

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 11184

FOR SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)  
SUBJECT: MELC: CHANGE IN VENUE

REF: LONDON 11182

1. PRIME MINISTER HAS AGREED TO FCO SUGGESTION, WHICH WE SUPPORT, THAT MELC BE HELD IN LEEDS CASTLE. THIS IS UKG FACILITY FOR HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCES, E.G., EC FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING.

2. MAJOR ADVANTAGES ARE EXCELLENT SECURITY AND OUTSTANDING LOCATION FOR INFORMAL CONFERENCE ENVIRONMENT.

3. DRAWBACKS ARE THAT ONLY 20 SLEEPING ROOMS AVAILABLE IN CASTLE; PRESS AND OTHERS WOULD HAVE TO BE HOUSED IN NEARBY VILLAGES WHICH UNDOUBTEDLY CANNOT HANDLE ENTIRE ENTOURAGE, AND SOME COULD COMMUTE FROM LONDON; COMMUNICATIONS FOR PARTY AND PRESS VERY LIMITED. LEEDS CASTLE LOCATED NEAR CITY OF MAIDSTONE, IN THE COUNTY OF KENT AND IS ABOUT TWO HOUR DRIVE FROM LONDON.

4. MOVEMENT OF SECRETARY AND FOREIGN MINISTERS WOULD  
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PROBABLY BE BY HELICOPTERS, BUT THIS COULD ONLY TAKE PLACE EARLIER IN THE DAY THAN SECRETARY'S PRESENTLY SCHEDULED ARRIVAL TIME, OR NEXT MORNING.

5. SINGLE APPARENTLY FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVE SEEMED TO BE A DOD AIR FORCE BOARDING SCHOOL LOCATED ON A SECURE USAF INSTALLATION, 18 MILES WEST OF LONDON. WHILE

HAVING SUFFICIENT BEDS, ATMOSPHERE NOT SUITABLE FOR A  
HIGH LEVEL CONFERENCE.

6. PLEASE ADVISE ASAP WHETHER FOREGOING ACCEPTABLE,  
SO WE CAN PROCEED WITH U.K. OFFICIALS ON PLANNING. WE  
HAVE SENT TASK FORCE TO LEEDS CASTLE AND SURROUNDING  
AREA TO MAKE ENQUIRIES ON HOTEL, PRESS AND OTHER  
ACCOMMODATIONS.

BREWSTER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978LONDON11184  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** RR  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Reference:** 78 LONDON 11182  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**SAS ID:** 1993443  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MELC: CHANGE IN VENUE  
**TAGS:** OVIP, (VANCE, CYRUS)  
**To:** BONN SECSTATE WASHDC  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014